

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EPA-04 SCI-06 SS-20 NSC-07 HEW-08

DOT-00 INT-08 HUD-02 CEQ-02 EB-11 IO-14 OIC-04

COME-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03 ACDA-19 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

DODE-00 CG-00 DRC-01 FMC-04 DLOS-07 COA-02 FEAE-00

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R 041620Z SEP 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7387

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 4355

US MISSION EC BRUSSELS 4024

US MISSION OECD PARIS 4155

US MISSION GENEVA 1988

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 4742

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, NATO

SUBJECT: CCMS: COASTAL WATER POLLUTION-OIL SPILLS RESOLUTION

FOLLOW-UP MEETING AT NATO, SEPTEMBER 26-27, 1974

REF: A) AC/274-D/15, DATED JUNE 25, 1971

B) USNATO 4261

C) STATE 188208 (NOTAL)

1. WE EXPECT BASIC REFERENCE NATO DOCUMENT FOR SUBJECT MEETING WILL BE AC/274-D/15, DATED 25 JUNE 1971, ENTITLED RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL ON THE POLLUTION OF THE SEA BY OIL SPILLS. TEXT OF THE RESOLUTIONS ALREADY TRANSMITTED TO ADDRESSEES IN REF B. FOR INFO USG DELEGATION TO MEETING, MISSION TRANSMITS BELOW THE TEXT OF THE DETAILED ACCOMPANYING RECOMMENDATIONS (AS APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL UNCLASSIFIED

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ON 19 MAY 1971);

BEGIN TEXT

RECOMMENDATIONS

A. PREVENTION

THE NATIONS OF THE ALIANCE RESOLVE TO ACHIEVE THE ELIMINATION OF INTENTIONAL DISCHARGES OF IOL AND OILY WASTES INTO THE OPEN WATERS, AND THE MINIMIZATION OF ACCIDENTAL SPILLS. THE NATIONS OF THE ALLIANCE WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING MEASURES:

1. (A) TO SEEK AN EARLY RATIFICATION OF THE 1969 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONVENTION FOR PREVENTION OF POLLUTION OF THE SEA BY OIL, 1954, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION (IMCO);

(B) TO ENCOURAGE THE UNIVERSAL RATIFICATION OF THE CONVENTION FOR PREVENTION OF POLLUTION OF THE SEA, 1954, AND ITS 1969 AMENDMENTS;

(C) TO URGE THE EARLY UNIVERSAL ADOPTION OF THE 1969 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONVENTION FOR PREVENTION OF POLLUTION OF THE SEA BY OIL, 1954, AS GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF NATIONAL LEGISLATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF THEIR PRACTICAL APPLICATION AND ENFORCEMENT, IF AND AS FAR AS COMPATIBLE WITH THE OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PRESENT CONVENTION, IN ADVANCE OF THESE AMENDMENTS COMING INTO FORCE INTERNATIONALLY THROUGH THEIR RATIFICATION BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY;

2. TO SUPPORT AND ACCELERATE WORK ON THE PART OF COMPETENT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, IN PARTICULAR THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION (IMCO) TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION STUDIES BEING MADE BY THE JOINT GROUP OF EXPERTS ON SCIENTIFIC ASPECTS OF MARINE POLLUTION (GESAMP) ON:

(A) THE DEVELOPMENT OF EQUIPMENT AND PROCEDURES FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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SHIP SAFETY, INCLUDING:

(I) SHIP DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION;

(II) OPERATING PROCEDURES AND NAVIGATIONAL AIDS, INCLUDING SEMI-AUTOMATIC TRACK-RECORDING SYSTEMS AS APPROPRIATE ADAPTATIONS OF EXISTING RADAR SYSTEMS;

(III) SHIP MANOEUVRABILITY;

(IV) ROUTING, INCLUDING CONTROL, AND DRAWING AS APPROPRIATE UPON THE EXPERIENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION IN THE GENERAL FIELD OF TRAFFIC CONTROL;

(V) QUALIFICATION OF PERSONNEL, INCLUDING
THIER TRAINING;

(B) THE DEVELOPMENT OF EQUIPMENT AND PROCEDURES
FOR MEASURING AND CONTROLLING THE OIL CONTENT OF DISCHARGES
(SEPARATORS AND METERS, ESPECIALLY);

(C) A CONTINUAL REVIEW OF THE ADEQUACY OF PORT
RECEPTION FACILITIES FOR OILY WASTES, AND IF THESE ARE INADQUATE,
THE NATIONS OF THE ALLIANCE RESOLVE TO IMPROVE SUCH FACILITIES
IN THEIR OWN PORTS AND TO ENCOURAGE OTHER NATIONS TO DO LIKEWISE
IN THEIRS;

3. TO TAKE SUCH STEPS AS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT
OF RESOLUTION(1);

4. TO URGE THE IMCO TO PREPARE, WITHIN ITS FIELD OF
COMPETENCE, AT THE NEXT REGULAR SESSION OF ITS ASSEMBLY,
OR, IF NECESSARY, BY CONVENING A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY
IN 1971, THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUCH MEASURES IN AN
INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT TO BE DRAFTED BEFORE 1973 AND ADOPTED
IN 1973 AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MARINE POLLUTION
CALLED FOR IN IMCO ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 176(IV) OF 23RD OCTOBER,
1969, WHEREBY THE ORGANIZATION IS COMMITTED TO WORK TOWARDS
THE PREVENTION OF MARINE POLLUTION "WITH ALL POSSIBLE SPEED";

5. RECOGNIZING THAT IN ADDITION TO SHIPPING OPERATIONS, OFFSHORE
OIL PRODUCTION FACILITIES AND OIL TRANSFER FACILITIES CONTRIBUTE
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SIGNIFICANTLY TO POLLUTION OF THE SEA BY OIL, THE NATIONS OF THE
ALLIANCE RESOLVE:

(A) TO PROVIDE FOR NATIONAL POLICY REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL
ASPECTS OF EACH PROPOSED NEW OIL-TRANSFER FACILITY;

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DODE-00 FMC-04 DRC-01 DLOS-07 COA-02 FEAE-00 NSF-04

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FM USMISSION NATO
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(B) TO CONTINUE DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNIQUES TO ELIMINATE
OPEN-WATER POLLUTION FROM THESE SOURCES AND TO REQUIRE THEIR
UTILIZATION BY THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY;

(C) TO DEVELOP MORE EFFECTIVE LINKS BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS
AND INDUSTRY TO ENSURE THAT MAXIMUM INFORMATION ON THE STATE
OF THE AREA WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE PLANNING OF NEW OIL
TRANSFER AND OIL PRODUCTION FACILITIES.

B. SCIENTIFIC ASPECTS

IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE SCIENTIFIC
AND TECHNOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF POLLUTION OF OPEN WATERS BY PETROLEUM
PRODUCTS AND BY MIXTURES CONTAINING PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, THE
NATIONS OF THE ALLIANCE RESOLVE:
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1. TO CONTINUE AND ACCELERATE PURE AND APPLIED RESEARCH,
DEVELOP PROGRAMMES OF SUCH RESEARCH, SHARE THE RESULTS OF
THESE PROGRAMMES, AND IDENTIFY AREAS REQUIRING ACCELERATED
RESEARCH. THIS RESEARCH EFFORT SHOULD INCLUDE, BUT IS NOT
NECESSARILY LIMITED TO:

(A) UNDERTAKE SURVEYS PERMITTING A MORE ACCURATE
ASSESSMENT OF OPEN-WATER OIL POLLUTION FROM VARIOUS SOURCES
AND OF THE RELATIVE CONTRIBUTION OF DIFFERENT PETROLEUM PRODUCTS
TO DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT;

(B) UNDERTAKE THE NECESSARY RESEARCH TO DETERMINE
THE FATE OF OIL IN THE SEA;

(C) ESTABLISH BASELINE INFORMATION ON THE COMPOSITION
AND DISTRIBUTION OF MARINE FAUNA AND FLORA, ON THE LEVELS OF
HYDROCARBONS AND OF PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM THEIR DEGRADATION
ENCOUNTERED IN MARINE ORGANISMS, IN SEDIMENTS, AND IN THE WATER
COLUMN, AND ON THE EFFECTS OF PETROLEUM POLLUTION UPON THE MARINE
ECOLOGY;

(D) CONDUCT RESEARCH TO DETERMINE LOW-LEVEL AND LONG

TERM EFFECTS OF OIL POLLUTION IN THE OPEN WATERS, CONCENTRATION OF HYDROCARBONS ALONG THE MARINE FOOD CHAIN, AND INTERFERENCE WITH FEEDING AND LIFE PROCESSES;

(E) STUDY HEALTH HAZARDS FROM OIL-DERIVED TOXIC AND POTENTIALLY CARCINOGENIC MATERIALS AND ESTABLISH ADQUATE FACILITIES TO PERMIT EFFECTIVE ANALYSIS OF FISHERIES' PRODUCTS FRO TOXIC CHEMICALS DERIVED FROM PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS;

(F) CONDUCT INTENSIFIED BASIC RESEARCH ON THE NATURAL BACTERIAL DEGRADATION OF OIL IN THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOP METHODS OF INCREASING THIS PROCESS;

2. TO REQUEST THE SCIENCE COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION TO GIVE SUPPORT TO RESEARCH ON SCIENTIFIC ASPECTS OF OIL SPILLS IN OPEN WATERS, AND TO EDENTIFY WAYS IN WHICH THE COMMITTEE CAN ASSIST NATIONAL EFFORTS IN THIS UNCLASSIFIED

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FIELD;

3. TO COMMEND AND SUPPORT THE PROGRAMMES BEING DEVELOPED BY INTERNATIONAL AND INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, SUCH AS THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO) OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION (IMCO), AND THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION (IOC) ON THE POLLUTION OF THE SEA BY OIL;

4. TO COMMEND FURTHER THE UNITED NATIONS' DECISION TO CONVENE A 1972 CONFERENCE ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT AND TO RECOMMEND THAT THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE INCLUDE IN THE CONFERENCE TH

THE ISSUE OF OPEN-WATER OILSPILLS AND THEIR EFFECTS UPON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT.

C. TECHNOLOGICAL ASPECTS

RECOGNIZING THAT THE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS OF DEALING WITH OIL SPILLS IN OPEN WATERS INVOLVES THE DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGICAL COUNTERMEASURES, THE NATIONS OF THE ALLIANCE RESOLVE:

1. TO DEVELOP IMPROVED METHODS FOR ALL-WEATHER, ROUND-THE-COLCK SURVEILLANCE OF OIL SPILLS, INCLUDING THE POSSIBLE USE OF SATELLITES AND THAT THE APPROPRIATE GROUPS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION UPON REQUEST ASSIST NATIONAL EFFORTS IN THIS FIELD;

2. TO DEVELOP URGENTLY TECHNOLOGICAL COUNTERMEASURES WHICH HAVE THE LEAST ADVERS IMPACT UPON THE ENVIRONMENT TO DEAL WITH OIL SPILLS WHEN THEY OCCUR, NOTING THAT ALL METHODS

OTHER THAN ACTUAL REMOVAL OF OIL FROM THE SEA ARE NOT WHOLLY SATISFACTORY;

3. TO CO-OPERATE AND RENDER EACH OTHER ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE IN THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, UPGRADING OF RESEARCH CAPABILITIES, AND IMPROVEMENT OF TECHNOLOGY.

D. PLANNING AND ACTION

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RECOGNIZING THE NECESSITY NOT ONLY FOR NATIONAL CONTINGENCY PLANS TO COPE WITH OIL SPILLS, BUT THE FURTHER DESIRABILITY OF HAVING THESE PLANS CONSISTENT AND MUTUALLY SUPPORTING, AT LEAST REGIONALLY, THE NATIONS OF THE ALLIANCE RESOLVE:

1. TO DEVELOP APPROPRIATE NATIONAL OIL SPILLS CONTINGENCY PLANS AS A MATTER OF URGENCY, INCLUDING PROVISIONS FOR COUNTERMEASURES

WHICH TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THEIR POSSIBLE ADVERSE IMPACT UPON THE ENVIRONMENT;

2. TO CO-OPERATE IN THE DETECTION AND ALERT, AS FOLLOWS:

(A) TO DESIGNATE APPROPRIATE CENTRES ALONG THEIR COASTS TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RECEPTION OF REPORTS OF OIL SPILLS FROM ANY SOURCES, AND THE RELAY OF THAT INFORMATION TO ANY OTHER COASTAL STATE THAT MIGHT BE AFFECTED BY THE OIL SPILLS;

(B) TO REQUIRE THEIR FLAG VESSELS TO REPORT TO THE DESIGNATED CENTRES ANY ACCIDENT OR CASUALTY WHICH RESULTS IN, OR THREATENS, A DISCHARGE OF OIL;

(C) TO REQUIRE THEIR FLAG VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT TO BE ALERT FOR ANY OIL SPILLS IN THE OPEN WATERS, AND TO REPORT ANY OF SIGNIFICANCE TO ONE OF THE DESIGNATED RECEPTION CENTRES;

3. TO DETERMINE REGIONAL AREAS OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION BASED REALISTICALLY UPON THE GEOGRAPHY OF PETROLEUM COMMERCE AND THE BEHAVIOUR OF OIL SPILLS;

4. TO RENDER TO EACH OTHER ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE AND PREVENT DAMAGE CAUSED BY OIL SPILLS OR THREATS OF DAMAGE POSED BY STRANDING OF OIL TANKERS OR BY COLLISION;

5. TO CO-OPERATE, AT LEAST WITHIN THESE AREAS, TO INSURE THE GREATEST POSSIBLE CONSISTENCY AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN THE PREPARATION OF THEIR NATIONAL CONTINGENCY PLANS.

2. WE ARE POUCHING COPIES OF COMPLETE DOCUMENT (REF A)
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TO DEPARTMENT RPM/SCHOLLAERT AND EPA/HARRIS. SUGGEST DEPARTMENT
MAKE THIS MATERIAL AVAILABLE TO PROSPECTIVE DELEGATES TO SUBJECT
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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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